

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1-4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for use in welding a pour spout fitment to a container, comprising an ultrasonic welding horn formed with a recess at one end thereof for receiving part of said fitment, an anvil between an annular surface portion of which anvil and said one end of the horn are vibrantly pressed a wall of said container and a flange of said fitment to weld said wall and said flange to each other, a head fixed relative to and protruding from said anvil for receiving said fitment over a free end thereof, and a ring substantially co-axial with said head and protruding substantially radially outwards from said head at an end thereof opposite to said free end for maintaining an annular, radially inner portion of said flange spaced axially outwards from said annular surface portion, wherein the improvement comprises the outer periphery of said ring being of a diametrical dimension less than a diametrical dimension of said recess.

Claim 6. (Cancelled)

Claim 7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, A method of welding a pour spout fitment to a container, comprising causing the fitment to be received over a free end of a head fixed relative to and protruding from an anvil, and introducing said head and thereby part of said fitment into a recess in an end of an ultrasonic welding horn, wherein the improvement comprises vibrantly pressing together, between said end of said horn and an annular surface portion of said anvil, a wall of said container and an annular, radially outer portion of a flange of said fitment to weld said wall and said radially outer portion together, while maintaining an annular,

radially inner portion of said flange axially outwardly spaced from said annular surface portion;

wherein, with said fitment fully received over said head, there is a spacing between a free end surface of said head and a facing surface of said fitment;

wherein, with said fitment fully received over said head and said horn not yet applied to said wall of said container, there is a spacing of from 0.2mm. to 0.5mm. between said annular surface portion of said anvil and said annular, radially outer portion of said flange.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) ~~A method according to claim 6,~~ A method of welding a pour spout fitment to a container, comprising causing the fitment to be received over a free end of a head fixed relative to and protruding from an anvil, and introducing said head and thereby part of said fitment into a recess in an end of an ultrasonic welding horn, wherein the improvement comprises vibrantly pressing together, between said end of said horn and an annular surface portion of said anvil, a wall of said container and an annular, radially outer portion of a flange of said fitment to weld said wall and said radially outer portion together, while maintaining an annular, radially inner portion of said flange axially outwardly spaced from said annular surface portion;

wherein, with said fitment fully received over said head and said horn not yet applied to said wall of said container, there is a spacing of from 0.2mm. to 0.5mm. between said annular surface portion of said anvil and said annular, radially outward portion of said flange.